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all, in a new edition, to publish these chapters separately as a manual for seismic observations and replace them in the book by a reduction of their contents to the scope of the preceding chapters. Such a change might greatly increase the saleability of the book, since the general part is of only limited value to the professional seismologist, who, when in need of a reference, is likely to consult a larger handbook, while the general reader may not be willing to pay for the whole of such an expensive book when only one half is within the limits of his understanding.

The last chapter (V.), untechnical again, contains a general survey of the history, present tendencies, modern methods, and practical application of seismology, including reports on the work accomplished in the various states of the civilized world, a list of the existing seismological stations and their apparatus, and reports on the proceedings of the first two International Seismological Conferences, in 1901 and 1903. Two indices, one of names and one of subjects, greatly add to the usefulness of the book for the reader; and so do reference tables, for the calculation of distant tremors for the scientist. The book is well illustrated with pictures and diagrams, which, among a number of well-known typical illustrations, include also much that is not found in the average text-book.

M. K. G.

**Actual India. By Arthur Sawtell.** viii and 120 pp., map and index. Elliot Stock, London, 1904.

It has been impossible hitherto to get a clear idea of the somewhat complicated system of British government in India without the uninspiring labour of consulting a number of large books, including official publications. Perhaps the difficulty of obtaining this knowledge may explain the phenomenon to which Lord Curzon recently referred when he said he sometimes thought that the most remarkable thing about British rule in India was the general ignorance about it in England. This little book gives just the information that is needed to make clear the methods of British rule and the fundamental policies that shape the measures of the Indian Government and direct its work.

After an excellent chapter on the geography of India, the book sketches the leading features of the Indian administration of to-day, shows its relations with Britain, the nominal control of Parliament, what the Government consists of both on its executive and its legislative side, describes the Provincial Council, local self-government, the India Civil Service, the district as the unit of administration, and other features, from the Viceroy, Governors, and Judiciary to the Collectors of Districts. Such topics as the defences of India, its foreign policy, the cost of government, "The Prosperity Problem," industrial development, and English influence have each a chapter to themselves. The book is not merely a compendium of facts, for the author is avowedly an admirer of the British system in India, and his pages evince some of his enthusiasm; but he avoids partizanship, and his work will fill a void that is felt by all who wish to have an intelligent idea of Indian affairs.

**Kleines Orts-Lexikon von Oesterreich-Ungarn. Von Dr. K. Peucker.** x und 142 Ss. Artaria & Co., Vienna, 1904. (Price, K. 2.50.)

The third edition of a little book that is convenient to handle and is packed with information about the towns of Austria-Hungary. It gives the name of every place of 2,000 or more inhabitants, and of all other places of importance for tourists, commerce, or communications, with much condensed information, including the height above the sea. Towns of more than 15,000 inhabitants have detailed tables showing the movement of population in each district, the percentage of growth or loss, and many other facts.